BRITON OTIENO

Software Engineer | Payments and Capital Markets Data | Founder, Wazi Labs Africa

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SUMMARY

I am a software engineer in Nairobi. I build the systems behind money and market data: payment flows, data pipelines and tools people use every day. I founded Wazi Labs Africa, a lab for market data and forecasting for Kenyan and African capital markets. Its main product, Wazi Markets, launched in June 2026 and reached about 35,000 organic visits in November 2026. I also built a church fundraising platform that takes M-Pesa payments and sends WhatsApp updates on its own, and I have worked on bond and money market fund tools for The Kenyan Wall Street. At Craft Silicon I work on TaskBridge, a platform used across the company. I like work where the numbers have to be right, and where a payment or a price that goes wrong is noticed straight away.

SKILLS

- **Payments:** M-Pesa Daraja (STK Push, callbacks), PayPal, Africa's Talking, payment reconciliation, donor statements and audit logs, webhooks and signed links
- **Financial markets and data:** NSE, CBK and KNBS data pipelines, bond pricing, yield to maturity, duration, coupon schedules, money market fund NAV and interest accrual, T-bill and bond auction data, index calculations (NASI, NSE 20), data validation
- **Back end:** Ruby on Rails, Python, Node.js, Express, Nest.js, .NET, PHP (Laravel), REST and GraphQL APIs, WebSockets, Sidekiq background jobs
- **Front end:** React, Redux, Next.js, TypeScript, JavaScript, HTML and CSS, charts and dashboards
- **Data and cloud:** PostgreSQL, MySQL, Redis, Linux, Docker, AWS (EC2, S3), Cloudflare Workers and D1, Heroku, Vercel, GitHub Actions CI/CD, Infrastructure-as-Code
- **Quality and security:** RSpec, Jest, TDD, OAuth2, JWT, encryption, audit logging, rate limiting, OWASP practices

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer, Craft Silicon *Aug 2025 to present*

- Core contributor to TaskBridge, an enterprise project and data management platform that replaces JIRA for staff and clients.
- Led the move of data from JIRA to TaskBridge: issues, workflows, user roles, history and dependencies, with no loss of records.
- Built backend features and tuned database queries to keep the platform fast under heavy use.
- Fixed production problems with nginx, Passenger and ActionCable, and helped bring the system back after a full-disk outage.

Founder and CEO, Wazi Labs Africa *Sept 2024 to present*

- Run a lab for market data and forecasting for Kenyan and African capital markets, with one aim: Clarity for African markets.
- Lead product, engineering and data work across Wazi Markets, Wazi News and Wazi Tax (details below).

Software Engineer, The Kenyan Wall Street (WallStreet.Africa), consultancy *Aug to Dec 2025*

- Built the Fixed Income Terminal in Ruby on Rails: bond pricing, yield to maturity, coupon schedules, cash flow projections, duration and settlement amounts.
- Built the Money Market Fund Terminal: interest accrual, NAV calculation and fund performance tracking.
- Moved and mapped data from old workflows to the new WallStreet website, and built data pipelines and reporting for market research.

Full-Stack Engineer, Gems of Insight, Swift Metals, Barbourse and Wazi *Sept 2024 to present*

- Delivered full-stack apps in Ruby on Rails and PostgreSQL, with role-based access, caching, background jobs and live updates.
- Integrated payment and fintech APIs, and set up CI/CD that cut defects after release by more than 40%.

Mentor (pro bono, remote), Microverse *May 2023 to present*

- Mentored more than 20 developers around the world on backend work, scaling and design decisions, and reviewed their code.

SELECTED PROJECTS

Wazi Markets | markets.wazi.africa *Live since June 2026*

- **About 35,000 organic visits in November 2026**, five months after launch. A market data terminal for Kenya that brings together equities, bonds, T-bills, forex and macro data from NSE, CBK and KNBS.
- Reads NSE and CBK PDF reports with text extraction and an OCR fallback, then checks every price before it is published.
- Wrote a price checker that flags unusual day-to-day moves, with tighter limits for heavy stocks such as Safaricom, Equity, KCB and EABL. It caught a decimal shift that made one company's market cap about 88 times too large.
- Publishes the NSE close daily and a weekly bulletin with a public scorecard that grades our own market calls, right or wrong.

Wazi Markets Beta 2 | beta.wazi.africa *Live beta*

- A full rebuild as a market terminal. The Cockpit home screen shows the NSE indices, market breadth, top gainers and losers, unusual volume and the 91-day T-bill rate.
- Rich interactive charts, a stock screener, equities and fixed income pages with yields, forex, and an Academy where first-time investors practise with virtual money.
- Built on Rails, PostgreSQL, Redis and Next.js, with encrypted secrets and on-premise AI models for data extraction.

Wazi News and Wazi Tax *news.wazi.africa | tax.wazi.africa*

- **Wazi News:** a pipeline of its own. It fetches court rulings from courts across Kenya, parses them into the system and writes articles from them, so businesses and readers can follow legal developments.
- **Wazi Tax (partly released):** reads documents such as P9 forms and payslips, finds the deductions a taxpayer can claim under KRA rules, and prepares the return for iTax.

KUSDA Fundraiser, being rebranded as Wazi Fund | fundraiser.kusdachurch.org *Payments, pledges and WhatsApp*

- The finished form of my earlier Give-OS idea for church giving. I am now rebranding it as Wazi Fund, a fundraising product for churches and ministries.
- Collects contributions through M-Pesa Daraja STK Push, with a callback pipeline that records each payment as it arrives.
- Pledges that people pay off in small amounts ("lipa mdogo mdogo"), and personal links that let friends and family help fulfil a pledge.
- Pay from WhatsApp: a donor can start a payment in chat using a signed link that expires, with saved conversation state and rate limits to stop abuse.
- Sends a WhatsApp message automatically when a payment lands and posts a live donor list to the group. Uses Baileys for group posts and the Meta WhatsApp Cloud API for direct messages, to balance cost and reliability.
- Built on Next.js with Cloudflare Workers and D1.

The Gardeners Ministry | thegardenersministry.org *Digital publishing*

- A website for a Christian teaching and publishing ministry that gives away its books for free: e-books, devotionals, podcasts and a discipleship school.
- Daily Bread email sign-up, content in English, Kiswahili, Arabic and French, and accessibility settings for text size, brightness, a dyslexia-friendly font and reduced motion.

Barbourse | barbourse.com *Pricing simulation*

- A live pricing engine that moves prices with demand, supply, trading volume and time, much like a stock exchange.

Wazi Voice | voice.wazi.africa *AI voice*

- A voice assistant (speech to text, language model, text to speech) for SACCOs and companies, using Africa's Talking and Liquid AI models.

Gems of Insight | gemsofinsight.com *Learning platform*

- A Rails learning platform with cohorts, secure assessments, grading and analytics for learners around the world.

Other work: M-bourse and InsightStake (information markets), OpenBB Kenya (NSE and CBK data research), OrkestraEA, Kodua, JibuCode, FinanceKe360, Real-Time Polling API, The Manifold Web, Podcasts Backend, Fast Recipes. Code at github.com/Eccb7.

EDUCATION

B.Sc. Mathematics and Computer Science, Kenyatta University *2021 to 2025*

Focus: algorithms, cryptography, database design and systems architecture. Class Representative.

Microverse, Full-Stack Software Development Program (remote) *Apr 2023 to Feb 2024*

More than 1,300 hours of project work with remote teams.

LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY

- Led programme planning and mentoring at KUSDA to improve unity and coordination.
- Open-source contributor to projects for African markets. Speaker at workshops on technology, startups and leadership.

AVAILABILITY AND LANGUAGES

Based in Nairobi. Open to remote, hybrid and travel. Languages: English and Kiswahili.

REFEREES

- Dr. Eric Araka, Computer Science and Machine Learning Lecturer, Kenyatta University
- Mr. Eric Asuma, Founder, Hisa, The Kenyan Wall Street and WallStreet Africa
- Prof. Omwoyo Ombori, Professor, Kenyatta University
- Eng. Erastus Ogello, Manager, Engineering, Sasini